<u>**REMARKS**</u>

Claims 1, 3-9, 11-17, and 19-24 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 3-9, 11-17, and 19-24 have been rejected. Applicants have amended claim 1 and cancelled claims 2-24.

Claims 1, 3-9, 11-17 and 19-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Custodio, U.S. Publication No. 2003/0182652 (Custodio), in view of Lee et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,745,683 (Lee). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention relates to naming services which support an instance of a naming system. The application sets forth that

> [a] "naming system" is a connected set of context of the same type, i.e., having the same naming convention, and providing the same set of operations with identical semantics. A "naming service" is a service that is offered to support an instance of a naming system; e.g., a naming service may be a set of APIs that provide the operations that are required to implement the syntactic rules for generating and manipulating names within the naming system. (Chang Application ¶ 0033.)

Additionally, when discussing the application based naming system of the present invention, the application sets forth:

> an application-based name is a compound name that comprises an application name and at least one deployment name. An application name is an atomic name that is associated with one or more instances of an application. A deployment name is an atomic name that is associated with a deployment attribute. A deployment attribute may include any metadata that characterizes the manner in which a particular instance of an application is deployed within a distributed data processing system. For example, a deployment attributed may characterize a series of versions of an application, each version being similar to each other yet differing in certain elements or features of a period of time. A deployment attribute may include: deployment identifier (ID),which may be a unique identifier associated with the deployment operation, wherein the identifier may be unique, for example, over all deployment operations, within the distributed data processing system or over all deployment operations for versions or instance of a particular application; a version number/identifier or an edition number/identifier associated with a version of the application, e.g., a version number that increases over time to identify each iteration of improvements in a series of modifications to an application; or some other identifier for a deployment-associated characteristic or metric, such as a date on which the deployment was performed. (Chang Application ¶ 0056.)

More specifically, the present invention, as set forth by amended independent claim 1, relates to a method for processing names by a naming service within a data processing system. The method includes obtaining an application name that is associated with an application; obtaining a deployment name that is associated with a deployment attribute that characterizes a deployment of an instance of the application; generating an application-based name for the instance of the application; storing the application-based name for the instance of the application in a computer storage medium; binding the application-based name to a data object; relating the data object to a context for an application server; and resolving the application-based name to a previously bound data object. The application-based name represents a context within a naming system. The application-based name is a compound name that comprises the application name and multiple deployment names associated with multiple deployment attributes the deployment name; and each of the multiple deployment attributes is a metadata value that characterizes a manner in which the instance of the application is deployed within the data processing system. Each of the multiple deployment attributes is selected from a group comprising a deployment identifier, the deployment identifier being a unique identifier associated with the deployment operation, the deployment identifier being unique over all deployment operations within the data processing system or unique over all deployment operations for all instances of the application within the data processing system; a version identifier or an edition identifier associated with a version of the application; and an identifier for a deployment-associated characteristic or metric. Where an application comprises a plurality of application modules, each module being associated with a module name and each module being associated with an application-based name based on its module name.

Custodio discloses a software building and deployment system that automates interactions with a source code repository system, an external builder, and a content deployment system. All interactions with these components are under the control of a manifest, and are recorded in a central database. This database maintains a link between source code in the repositories and the code and content actual deployed in an environment, such as a testing environment or a production environment. Each manifest is assigned a release number to allow the database to track every change to an environment as separate release. This in turn allows the database to track the entire contents of an environment over time, down to the exact version of a component found in a particular release of the environment.

Lee discloses a Federated Naming Framework System which includes a Federated Naming Service Provider Interface ("FN SPI") for four kinds of Name Services (Atomic Name, Compound Name, Partial Composite Name and Composite Name) along with a mechanism, designated the "FN Framework", which sits between the Client application and these Name Services and supports the translation and administration of calls for resolution of composite names to allow Client applications to make appropriate use of the available FN SPIs. The Federated Naming Framework System provides mechanisms to define and process strong and weak separation in the determination of naming system boundaries.

Custodio and Lee, taken alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method for processing names by a naming service within a data processing system which includes obtaining a deployment name that is associated with a deployment attribute that characterizes a deployment of an instance of the application; generating an application-based name for the instance of the application; storing the application-based name for the instance of the application in a computer storage medium; binding the application-based name to a data object; relating the data object to a context for an application server; and resolving the application-based name to a previously bound data object, much less where the application-based name represents a context within a naming system, much less where the application-based name is a compound name that comprises the application name and multiple deployment names associated with multiple deployment attributes the deployment name; and each of the multiple deployment attributes is a metadata value that characterizes a manner in which the instance of the application is deployed within the data processing system, much less where each of the multiple deployment attributes is selected from a group comprising a deployment identifier, the deployment identifier being a unique identifier associated with the deployment operation, the deployment identifier being unique over all deployment operations within the data processing system or unique over all deployment operations for all instances of the application within the data processing system; a version identifier or an edition identifier associated with a version of the application; and an identifier for a deployment-associated characteristic or metric, much less where an application comprises a plurality of application modules, each module being associated with a module name and each module being associated with an application-based name based on its module name, all as required by claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable over Custodio and Lee.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

The Commissioner is authorized to deduct any additional fees that may be necessary and to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 65362.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically submitted to the COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS via EFS on April 23, 2008.

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Respectfully submitted,

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